Bitterroot Job Service Employers Committee Meeting Minutes November 20, 2007

Present:

Jesse Lohse, Rocky Mountain Truss Tracy Klapwyk, Red's Office Supply Pat Easley, Bitterroot Valley Chamber Rebecca Johnson, Apex HR Becky Brough, Hamilton Schools Linda Valentine, Human Resource Council Julie Foster, Ravalli County EDA Vickie Steele, Bitterroot JSWC
Deb Morris, Marcus Daly Mem. Hospital
Skip Rosenthal, Ravalli County
Patty West, Office of Public Assistance
Mark Seitz, First Security Bank
Kathleen Cannon-Siegle, Bitterroot JSWC

Introductions: Introductions were made with business affiliations.

Minutes: The October minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: Debbie noted the ending JSEC account balance as \$2,754.60 and the report was approved.

Florence Career Fair: Becky announced that the Missoula JSEC would like us to help with a Career Fair which is targeted for the Florence High School. We will know more when they determine what speakers they need help scheduling. The date for the Career Fair is Friday, March 14th from 12:05 to 3:10. They would like a representative to meet with them on December 6th at 1:00 (at Florence H.S.) for a brainstorming session. Becky said that she did not know if she could make it and asked for a second representative to attend. Volunteers included: Linda, Jesse and Deb. Becky reported that Robin Cahoon is the chairperson for the Missoula JSEC's "Focus on the Future" subcommittee.

Julie announced that she met with Wolf Ametsbichler, Manager of the Missoula Workforce Center, regarding his wish to partner with us for the Western Montana Premiere Career Fair scheduled for April 16th from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m.. There will be a charge to employers of \$125 each. There was a group discussion noting concerns about any possible benefits to Bitterroot employers and job seekers. JSEC members said they are open to having Wolf Ametsbechler speak to our JSEC. There was consensus that Becky discuss this with Patti when she returns.

Community Job Fair: Vickie Steele reported that we will have a date for the Community Job Fair hopefully by the next JSEC meeting.

Seminars: Pat Boles with the Department of Administration, will be presenting the JSEC sponsored IT Security seminar on February 28th from 8:30-11:00 at the Marcus Daly Memorial Hospital. The seminar registration fee is tabled until next month.

Guest Speaker: Don Collins, Senior Development Officer for the Missoula Childrens Theatre. Don reported that the Missoula Childrens Theatre is the largest touring childrens theatre in the world. He provided very impressive statistics identifying benefits of theatre including the development of life skills in children through participation in the performing arts. He said in most cultures everyone sings and dances as part of communication. A major benefit is the improvement of self esteem in children which is a serious issue. The Missoula Childrens Theatre will have 1200 residences this year. Some of the life skills learned include teamwork, understanding, trust, tolerance and responsibility. In one week of practice a show is performed. Goal setting, achievement, communication and self confidence are developed which can open doors to success in math and science. Don will send information via email to interested members. We appreciated Don's presentation.

Meeting adjourned.